

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

THE

Cotton

SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

☆

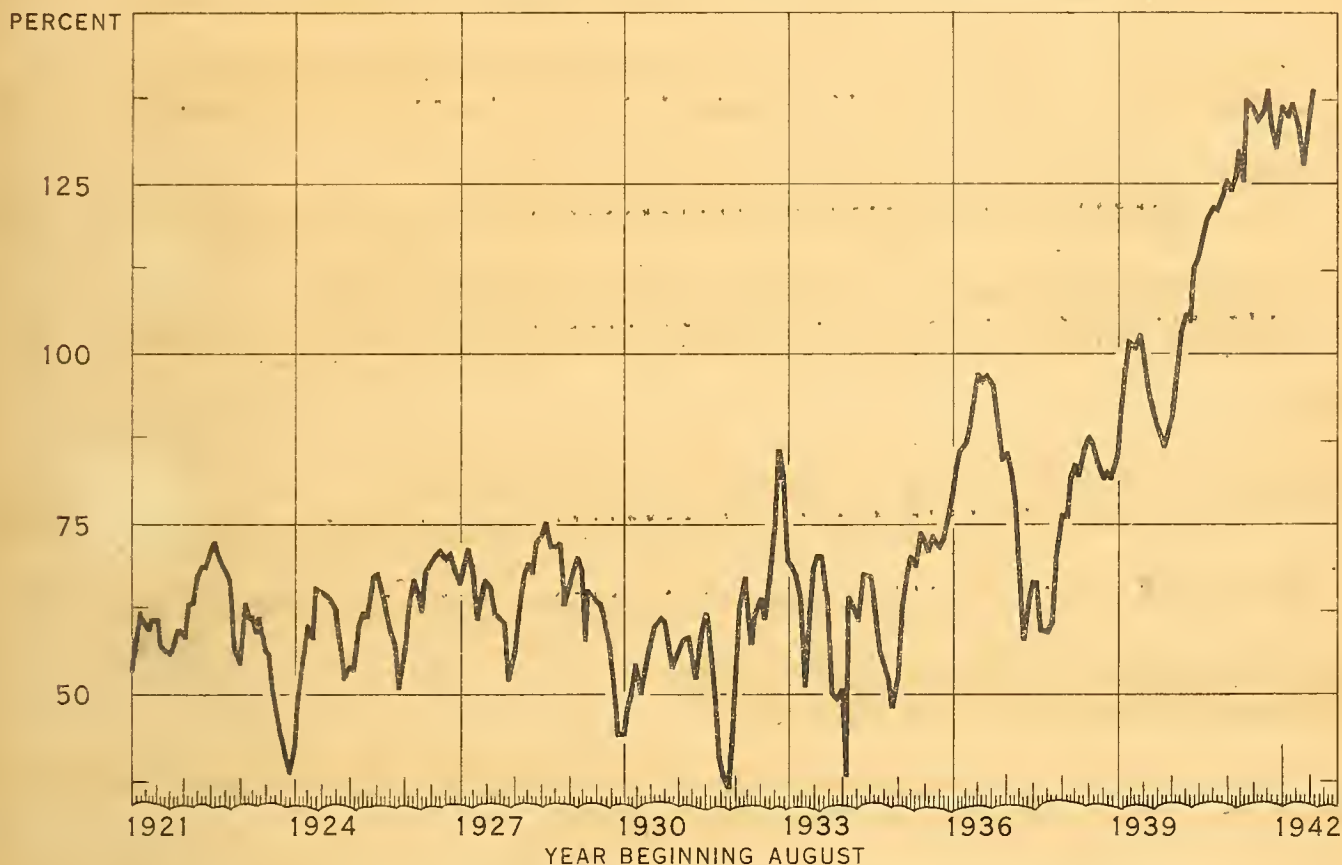
LIBRARY
CURRENT SERIAL RECORD
DEC 15 1943
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CS-76

BAE

FEBRUARY 1943

PERCENTAGE OF ACTIVITY IN COTTON SPINNING BASED ON 80 HOURS PER WEEK OPERATION, UNITED STATES, 1921-42



BASED ON DATA FROM BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

DATA FOR 1942 ARE PRELIMINARY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 42394 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

The percentage of activity in the cotton spinning industry, based on 80 hours per week operation, ranged from about 50 to 75 percent during most of the first 15 years for which records are available. The index advanced from 48.7 percent in July 1935 to 138.8 percent in January 1943.

This index is heavily weighted by activity in the cotton-growing States which in January accounted for over 4/5 or the active spindle hours for the entire United States. In the New England States and in the other non-cotton-growing States there has been a marked decline in the percentage of spindle activity during the past year.

THE COTTON SITUATION 1/

Table of Contents	Page
Farmers Permitted to Exceed 1943 Cotton Acreage Allotments by 10 Percent	2
A Survey of Cotton Consumption During the War Period	3
Unused Capacity at Beginning of the National Defense Program Facilitated Rapid Expansion in Textile Output	3
Pattern of Textile Activity Has Varied Sharply in Different Areas	4
Daily Cotton Consumption Declines Mostly in Non-Cotton-Growing States	5
Consumption May Total About 11.3 Million Bales This Season	6
Cotton Supply Adequate but Higher Qualities Relatively Scarce	7
Tables:	
Selected Data Relating to Activity in the Cotton Textile Industry	10-15
Statistical Summary	16
<u>Farmers Permitted to Exceed 1943 Cotton Acreage Allotments by 10 Percent 2/</u>	

The following announcement was released March 6 by the Department of Agriculture and the Office of War Information:

"In order to insure full planting of the national cotton acreage allotment so as to add to the wartime supply of vegetable oils and protein feeds, Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard today announced that farmers will be permitted to exceed their 1943 cotton acreage allotments by 10 percent but that cotton marketing quotas will be retained.

1/ February 27, 1943.

2/ This important change in the 1943 Farm Program occurred after the February issue of The Cotton Situation was completed. Because of its widespread interest to those receiving The Cotton Situation and because of the nearness to planting time, it was deemed advisable to insert this section in the February issue.

"Farmers may plant this 10 percent excess acreage, said the Secretary, without loss of agricultural conservation program payments, without being liable for cotton marketing quota penalties, and without forfeiture of cotton loan privileges. Farmers will receive no payments for the acreage planted in excess of the allotment, and the ten percent increase in no way relaxes the provisions pertaining to achievement of war crop goals.

"Because of normal underplanting, the shortage of labor, and increased production of vegetables, feed grains, peanuts and soybeans, some farmers will not plant their full cotton acreage allotment in 1943. Farmers normally underplant the national cotton acreage allotment by 10 to 15 percent. For example, in 1942, with a national allotment of 27,300,000 acres, farmers planted only 23,310,000 acres, 15 percent below the allotment.

"Secretary Wickard urged farmers to plant their full peanut, soybean, and other war crop goals, and asked Southern farmers to increase their production of feed grains.

"I think we should recognize that there are some areas in the Cotton Belt that are better adapted to the production of cotton than to other oil crops," Secretary Wickard said. "The 10 percent increase should enable some of these areas to make a more complete contribution to our production program. Cottonseed meal is an excellent source of protein food for livestock, and cottonseed oil is one of the best edible oils. However, the seed is only a by-product of cotton production, and in those areas which can grow them, we should remember that we can get more meal and more oil per acre and per hour of man labor from peanuts and soybeans."

"The Secretary said that an acre of cotton, based on the United States average for the past five years, will yield, in addition to the lint, 205 pounds of meal and 70 pounds of oil."

A SURVEY OF COTTON CONSUMPTION DURING THE WAR PERIOD

For the past year and a quarter domestic cotton mills have consumed cotton at a rate of 11 million bales or more per year. A few years ago this rate would have been considered fantastic. For years the industry operated on a single shift basis. Gradually two shift operation became standard. During the present war, more and more mills have added a third shift and lengthened the work week from 5 to 6 and even 7 days, thus helping to make possible this high rate of cotton consumption. There has been evidence, however, that this high level of mill activity has not been fully maintained of late. This report analyzes the changes in cotton consumption from the beginning of the national defense program to the present, as a basis for anticipating future developments.

Unused Capacity at Beginning of the National Defense Program Facilitated Rapid Expansion in Textile Output

It was comparatively easy to expand textile output at the beginning of the national defense program. To say that supplies of raw cotton were abundant would be an understatement. Extensive unemployment bore witness to a large

reservoir of available laborers, many of whom had no doubt had previous experience in textile mills. Much idle textile machinery could be brought into operation with comparative ease and there was ample opportunity for mills to lengthen the hours of operation of already active machines.

The national defense program caused textile mill output to be increased in two different ways. Large direct Government orders (military) were placed for cotton textiles and other products the manufacture of which required textiles. Civilian demand for textiles also increased, as a natural result of the rise in consumer income which accompanied expanded employment and increased industrial production.

Military orders were first merely superimposed on the already expanding civilian business of the mills. This continued as long as mills could expand output fast enough to keep pace with the increase in combined military and civilian demand. It was evident for some time before Pearl Harbor that the combined military and civilian demand for certain kinds of cotton textiles would eventually exceed the productive capacity of the mills. However, not until early 1942 did it become necessary for the War Production Board to issue General Preference Order M-91 "To Conserve the Supply and Direct the Distribution of Cotton Duck" and Limitation Order No. L-99, "Bag Osnaburg and Bag Shootings," to insure that military and essential civilian needs for these fabrics would be met.

The upturn in textile production naturally caused a sharp increase in domestic cotton consumption. This was accomplished by shifting to heavier weight fabrics, longer hours of operation, and the utilization of machinery which had previously been idle. Before the national defense program, cotton consumption had never reached as much as 8 million bales in any year. In fact, in 22 of the 28 years from 1912-13 through 1939-40, consumption ranged between 5 million and 7 million bales. In 1940-41 consumption rose to 9.7 million bales, a gain of 25 percent over the preceding season. In 1941-42 consumption totaled 11.2 million bales, a gain of 15 percent over 1940-41 and 44 percent over 1939-40. These figures include 420,000 bales of cotton in 1940-41 and 68,700 bales in 1941-42 that were distributed in the various Government mattress programs.

Pattern of Textile Activity has Varied Sharply in Different Areas

There has been considerable divergence in the changes in textile activity in different areas. Official indexes of spindle activity and cotton consumption are not available on an area basis. However, basic data on the number of spindles in place, active spindle hours and bales of cotton consumed are available on an area basis. One difficulty in computing area indexes is in deciding what holiday allowance to make in determining the number of working days per month. In computing the percentage of activity in the cotton spinning industry, based on 80 hours per week operation, the Bureau of the Census uses holiday allowances which are considered representative of the entire industry. The Federal Reserve follows a similar procedure as far as holiday allowances are concerned in computing its index of cotton consumption.

For lack of better information on the extent to which specific holidays are observed by the textile industry in various sections of the country, the area indexes shown in a table at the end of this report were prepared by using the same number of working days for each of the areas as the compiling agency used for the United States index. The same seasonal adjustment factors which are used by the Federal Reserve in its United States index of cotton consumption were also used for each of the area indexes of cotton consumption. A survey of these indexes shows quite definitely that there have been marked area differences.

Daily Cotton Consumption Declines Mostly
in Non-Cotton-Growing States

In reducing cotton consumption to a working-day basis for each of the various geographical areas reported by the Bureau of the Census, it is found that the peak daily rate of 39,230 bales in the cotton-producing States was reached in May 1942, or 1 month after the peak of 6,917 bales and 46,142 bales, respectively, were reached in the non-cotton-growing States and in the United States as a whole. However, in subdividing the non-cotton-growing States, the record daily consumption of 5,493 is found to have come in February 1942 in the New England States and a peak of 1,435 bales per day occurred in August 1941 in the other non-cotton-growing States. For the entire United States the peak monthly consumption, 999,749 bales, was reached in April 1942. This is equivalent to 46,142 bales per working day or an annual rate of 11.9 million bales.

Since these various high daily rates were established, consumption has declined. In January 1943, for instance, the average daily consumption for the United States was 44,658 bales or 3.2 percent below the record. In the cotton-growing States consumption averaged 38,813 bales per day in January or 1.1 percent below the record. This compares with declines of 14.8 percent in the New England States; 18.9 percent in the other non-cotton-growing States and 15.5 percent for all non-cotton-growing States. Thus, not only was the peak daily consumption reached at an earlier date in the New England and other non-cotton-growing States than in the cotton-growing States, but the declines from the peak levels have also been greater in those areas than in the cotton-growing States.

The failure of consumption in the various areas to push above the respective peak levels reached 9 months or more ago appears to have been largely, but by no means entirely, attributable to the inability of mill machinery to handle more cotton. Cards constitute an important machinery bottleneck. Under normal operating conditions many mills operate their cards for longer hours than they do their spindles. The shift to heavier fabrics tended to accentuate this lack of balance. On the other hand, the explanation for the decreases in consumption which have occurred since those peaks were reached lies elsewhere.

Available information suggests that the labor situation was largely responsible for the fact that cotton consumption has declined somewhat from the record levels reached last year. The labor turn-over rates in the cotton goods industries as reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics have shown a marked tendency to increase during the past year. For the most part there has

been a net increase in the total number of employees but some recent months have shown net decreases. Not only has the turn-over rate for the entire industry increased but the turn-over among the more highly skilled employees has reportedly been so great in some instances as to constitute a real hindrance to the maintenance of production at peak levels. Some mills which undertook full 7-day operation have since apparently found that the disadvantages of Sunday operation more than offset the advantages, with the result that they now are working but 6 days per week.

The area differences which were observed in the daily consumption rate naturally occur in the Index of Cotton Consumption, since the Index is based on average daily consumption. The Index of Spindle Activity and the Hours Operated per Spindle in Operation also bear out these same general results, except that the Index of Spindle Activity reached new highs for the cotton-growing States and for the United States as a whole in January 1943. This was due in part to the decline since last spring in the number of spindles in place.

Several factors appear to have caused these area differences. Mills in the cotton-growing States, though paying generally lower wages than northern mills; nevertheless pay wages which correspond favorably with those common to other types of employment in the area. Also of importance is the large number of people employed in agriculture fairly close to the mills. Since agricultural wage rates are considerably below the rates paid by the southern mills, the adjacent farming areas constitute a labor reservoir for southern mills.

For the most part the situation in other parts of the country is quite different. Northern textile mills generally are much closer to other industry than are southern mills. Wage rates paid by these alternative sources of employment furnish much greater competition for textile workers in the North than in the cotton-growing States. Unlike the South, there is no such reservoir of relatively low paid agricultural workers in proximity to the northern mills. Because of the greater concentration of fine goods mills in the North, the disrupting effect of the turn-over of skilled laborers may be greater than in the South.

Consumption May Total About 11.3 Million
Bales this Season

During the first 6 months of the current season mill consumption of cotton totaled 5,627,756 bales. This compares with 5,390,724 bales during the corresponding period last season, an increase of 4.4 percent. The continuation of consumption at the same daily rate as in January or at the average daily rate for the past 6 months would give a total consumption of about 11.3 million bales this season.

The Director of the Textile, Clothing, and Leather Division of the War Production Board recently sent 519 cotton mills telegrams in which he stressed the importance of textile production and sought their full cooperation in obtaining maximum output of needed textiles.

Simplification of production also will help mills to achieve maximum output. Moreover, changes in fabric construction and style and other voluntary measures undertaken by the industry, together with the conservation orders already put into effect by the War Production Board will make a given production go much farther than would otherwise have been the case.

Movement of manpower into the armed forces and into other industries is likely to continue and, consequently, the labor turn-over in the textile industry may continue fairly high. This does not necessarily mean that there will be a net decline in employment in the textile industry, though such may be the case.

Cotton Supply Adequate but Higher
Qualities Relatively Scarce

In view of the need for a high level of textile production, it is particularly fortunate that adequate supplies of most qualities of cotton are available. The supplies of the higher grades of 15/16 inch and longer, however, are relatively small as against an unusually large supply of shorter staples, especially in the low grades. The domestic carry-over of American cotton last August was 10,505,000 bales. Since production (ginnings plus city crop) is estimated at about 12,650,000 running bales, the total domestic supply of American cotton is about 23,155,000 bales or about 1/2 million bales larger than last season. Continuation of the present level of mill activity would result in a consumption of about 11-1/3 million bales this season, of which nearly 200,000 bales would be of foreign growths. Total domestic disappearance of American cotton (including consumption, exports, and destroyed) probably will total about 12,450,000, leaving an end of season carry-over of about 10.7 million running bales of American cotton, an increase of about 200,000 bales over August 1, 1942 and the fourth largest on record, having been exceeded only in 1938, 1939, and 1941. With mill activity almost double the average peacetime rate, however, larger than usual stocks are needed to insure maximum textile production.

As pointed out in the January issue of The Cotton Situation, the 22-1/2 million acres suggested for 1943, with yields and abandonment equal to the 1937-41 average, would result in a crop of about 11.2 million bales, 500 pounds gross weight. This would be equivalent to about 11 million running bales, including an adjustment for city crop, giving a 1943-44 supply of about 21.7 million running bales of American cotton. Should 1943-44 disappearance be the same as that estimated for this season, the carry-over on August 1, 1944 would be about 9-1/4 million bales or about 9 months' supply. This would be a larger carry-over relative to the preceding year's disappearance than in 17 of the past 23 years. If the yield should be less than the 1937-41 average — say equal to the lowest during that 5-year period, the carry-over on August 1, 1944 would be nearly 7.2 million bales. This would be about 7 months' disappearance or larger than in 13 of the past 23 years. However, with the same distribution of qualities in the 1943-44 supply as in 1942-43, a carry-over as low as 7.2 million bales would mean a scarcity of the higher grades and necessitate considerable shifting to lower grades in the medium staples by domestic mills. It is also likely that shortages in the longer staples would develop under these circumstances.

Although the raw cotton supply situation is about as favorable as that of any major agricultural product, it is nevertheless important that the supply of cotton should match demand from the standpoint of particular grades and staple lengths. Our domestic consumption and our greatly restricted export outlets both require a higher average quality of cotton than they did before the beginning of our national defense program. This selective demand is not likely to change particularly before the end of the war if desired supplies of the higher qualities continue to be available. As for the present season, indications are that mills are experiencing no particular difficulty in obtaining the qualities needed to maintain their production schedules, although some mills have found it necessary to make shifts in the quality of cotton consumed. The end-of-season carry-over is expected to contain a reasonable amount of all important qualities.

However, in the low grades and in the shorter lengths, particularly under 15/16 inch, there is clearly a disproportionately large supply -- estimated to be enough to last several years at current rates of disappearance. Consequently, farmers are being urged to shift where practicable to longer staple varieties than those grown previously. Farmers who are already producing, or can produce, cotton having a staple length of 1-1/8 inches and longer are urged to do so. Farmers who cannot produce such long staple cotton are urged to shift to varieties having as long a staple length as can be successfully grown on their particular farms. Although this applies to all farmers, it is especially important that producers of the short staple cotton, of which there is so distinctly an oversupply, make the utmost effort to shift to longer staple varieties for which the war need is greater. It is also highly desirable that a concerted effort be made to improve the grade of the cotton produced.

Evidence that many farmers who have been growing the shorter staple varieties could profitably shift to longer staple varieties is found in the following extracts from reports of the Texas and Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Stations. These two States in 1941 produced two-thirds of the total United States production of cotton under 1 inch and four-fifths of that under 15/16 inch.

"To meet adequately our war needs for cottons with good spinning performance we (Texas) should greatly increase the production of varieties that have high spinning utility and that produce cotton with staple lengths 15/16 inch and longer. Fortunately, it is not necessary to sacrifice yield in order to obtain good spinning performance. Recent variety tests conducted by the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station at Lubbock and other points throughout the State show that certain varieties produce lint 15/16 inch and longer and yield, with few exceptions, as much or more than varieties having a staple length of 7/8 inch and shorter. The safest and surest way of improving Texas cotton is to plant only those varieties which have high yields and high spinning performance." 1/

1/ "Gearing Texas Cotton to War Needs," Texas Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin No. 624, November 1942.

"Oklahoma farmers can pursue an economically sound quality production program. This can be accomplished by planting varieties adapted to Oklahoma, and by proper planting, cultivating, harvesting, ginning, and marketing of the cotton. ...

"In the United States at present there is a so-called surplus ... of cotton, but most of this cotton is short staple or low grades or both and under present conditions cannot be used in America. ... From the standpoint of profit and also from the standpoint of patriotism, the Oklahoma farmer must not add to this stock of unusable cotton, but must produce the kind of cotton that can go into domestic consumption, namely, the middle staple lengths with grades as high as possible. ...

"Oklahoma must, because of location, adopt a cotton that is short enough to make a decent grade from snaps and long enough to be of value. Oklahoma should concentrate its efforts on producing hard-bodied, even-fibered cotton that will make 15/16 inch to 1 inch staple, and to gathering this cotton as clean as possible." 1/

An abundant total supply of cotton is in prospect. Its adequacy from the standpoint of grade and staple length will depend largely on the degree to which farmers shift to longer staple varieties this spring and harvest their crop in such a way as to avoid low grade cotton. Reasonable success of the program to attain a higher proportion of the crop in the longer lengths and higher grades should result in matching supply to demand. Without such a shift, it might be necessary for mills to use a great proportion of lower quality cotton before the end of the 1943-44 season than they have had to use this season.

1/ Davis, K. C. and W. A. Williams, "Oklahoma Cotton in Wartime, A Comparison of Oklahoma Production and Military Requirements," Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station Circular No. 105, July 1942.

Selected data relating to activity in the cotton textile industry, by areas,
August 1939-January 1943

Year and month	Percentage of activity in the cotton spinning industry based on an 80-hour work week				Average hours operated per active spindle 2/				Percentage of spindles active 2/			
	United States 1/		Non-cotton-growing States 2/		United States		Cotton-growing States		United States		Cotton-growing States	
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1939-40												
Aug.	85.1	92.3	66.0	67.7	359	53.3	375	87.1	311	90.6	375	78.0
Sept.	92.5	100.8	70.5	71.9	346	60.0	365	88.3	289	91.3	365	80.6
Oct.	97.9	105.0	78.8	80.4	378	66.8	394	90.4	331	93.0	394	83.3
Nov.	101.4	108.5	82.3	84.1	387	68.4	402	91.3	341	94.0	402	84.0
Dec.	100.7	107.2	83.3	84.9	353	70.6	365	91.3	316	93.9	365	84.5
Jan.	102.8	110.2	82.8	84.2	404	71.6	421	91.6	353	94.3	421	84.3
Feb.	99.7	107.9	77.4	77.9	363	73.9	381	91.3	308	94.1	381	83.6
Mar.	94.6	103.7	69.7	69.6	351	70.5	372	90.5	285	93.6	372	82.1
Apr.	92.0	100.2	69.7	69.7	359	69.5	374	89.6	309	93.5	374	78.8
May	89.4	98.9	63.4	64.0	362	58.2	383	89.6	292	93.6	383	78.6
June	87.9	96.7	63.6	63.6	317	63.1	334	88.7	262	92.8	334	77.6
July	86.6	94.1	66.2	67.4	344	56.8	359	88.6	297	92.3	359	78.4
1940-41												
Aug.	90.5	98.9	67.3	68.0	357	61.9	375	89.3	298	92.9	375	79.5
Sept.	96.8	105.6	72.3	73.6	353	61.7	372	90.6	292	93.7	372	81.8
Oct.	103.5	109.6	86.4	88.0	413	74.2	426	91.5	374	94.1	426	84.3
Nov.	105.7	114.4	81.5	82.3	380	74.6	400	92.4	317	94.9	400	85.4
Dec.	105.2	112.0	86.3	87.4	380	77.4	393	93.0	338	95.7	393	85.6
Jan.	112.3	120.4	89.8	91.0	434	79.8	451	93.2	379	96.0	451	85.3
Feb.	114.0	121.7	92.4	93.6	392	83.3	407	93.1	345	95.8	407	85.6
Mar.	116.9	125.4	93.3	94.5	421	83.6	439	93.4	364	96.0	439	86.2
Apr.	120.1	128.5	96.4	99.5	452	71.6	469	93.6	395	96.4	469	85.8
May	121.7	131.8	93.1	95.1	447	76.9	473	94.4	364	96.5	473	88.5
June	121.5	130.3	96.8	98.2	432	85.8	454	94.5	367	96.5	454	88.8
July	123.0	132.4	96.3	97.8	458	84.5	483	94.6	381	96.6	483	89.0

Continued -

Selected data relating to activity in the cotton textile industry, by areas,
August 1939-January 1943 - Continued

Year and month	Percentage of activity in the cotton spinning industry based on an 80-hour work week				Average hours operated per: active spindle 2/				Percentage of spindles active 2/			
	United States		Non-cotton-growing States		United States		Non-cotton-growing States		United States		Non-cotton-growing States	
	1/		2/		3/		4/		5/		6/	
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1941-42												
Aug.	125.4	135.8	95.9	97.6	445	81.8	471	94.7	363	96.9	471	88.7
Sept.	124.0	135.0	92.8	94.1	454	82.1	483	94.6	366	97.0	483	88.0
Oct.	125.9	134.9	100.5	101.3	487	94.2	511	95.0	415	97.1	511	89.1
Nov.	129.8	140.0	100.4	100.7	430	98.6	456	95.5	349	97.1	456	90.9
Dec.	125.4	133.8	101.2	102.2	462	93.7	485	95.5	392	97.0	485	90.9
Jan.	137.0	146.7	109.1	110.3	492	99.7	518	95.7	414	97.4	518	90.7
Feb.	136.3	145.4	109.4	110.5	454	101.5	477	96.1	381	97.5	477	92.0
Mar.	134.3	144.2	105.2	105.6	492	102.2	521	96.0	403	97.4	521	92.0
Apr.	135.2	145.1	106.3	107.2	496	99.2	524	96.0	408	97.5	524	91.6
May	138.5	150.5	103.2	104.1	484	96.5	519	96.1	376	97.4	519	92.3
June	133.7	144.4	102.0	102.6	489	97.4	521	96.2	390	97.6	521	92.1
July	130.2	140.5	99.5	100.8	497	89.3	530	96.4	395	97.6	530	92.7
1942-43												
Aug.	136.4	149.5	97.6	98.2	478	93.4	516	95.9	358	97.4	516	91.6
Sept.	134.9	147.4	97.8	98.7	487	91.2	525	96.0	369	97.3	525	91.9
Oct.	136.9	148.2	103.3	104.7	497	92.6	531	96.3	389	97.5	531	92.7
Nov.	133.4	145.7	96.3	97.4	460	88.5	497	96.2	345	97.4	497	92.7
Dec.	127.9	138.7	95.2	97.0	471	81.7	502	96.0	364	96.8	502	92.0
Jan.	138.8	152.5	98.0	98.8	473	91.4	512	96.3	349	97.8	512	92.0

Continued -

Selected data relating to activity in the cotton textile industry, by areas,
August 1939-January 1943 - Continued

Year and month	Cotton consumption per day 4/				Index of cotton consumption, seasonally adjusted (1935-39 = 100)			
	United States		Non-cotton-growing States		Cotton-growing States		Non-cotton-growing States	
	: Running bales		: Running bales		: States 5/		: States 4/	
	: United States		: Total : New England : States		: United States		: Total : New England : States	
	Running bales	Running bales	Running bales	Running bales	United States	5/	Total : New England : States	4/
1939-40								
Aug.	27,420	23,213	4,207	817	114	115	109	108
Sept.	30,448	26,068	4,380	866	117	119	104	103
Oct.	31,561	26,619	4,942	961	119	119	116	115
Nov.	33,429	28,352	5,077	941	124	126	118	118
Dec.	32,506	27,652	4,854	912	127	129	118	117
Jan.	32,524	27,555	4,969	881	120	121	114	107
Feb.	32,021	27,346	4,675	893	115	117	104	105
Mar.	29,866	25,739	4,127	867	108	111	93	91
Apr.	28,758	24,581	4,177	831	107	109	97	96
May	28,517	24,634	3,883	695	109	113	93	87
June	28,271	24,460	3,811	787	114	118	96	104
July	28,306	24,318	3,988	779	121	124	106	109
1940-41								
Aug.	29,586	25,506	4,080	766	123	127	106	105
Sept.	31,133	26,774	4,359	822	119	122	104	103
Oct.	33,514	28,384	5,130	871	126	127	120	107
Nov.	36,155	31,021	5,134	1,085	139	142	122	119
Dec.	37,023	31,758	5,265	1,021	142	145	126	128
Jan.	37,548	31,936	5,612	1,055	144	146	134	133
Feb.	39,671	33,700	5,971	1,260	152	154	142	139
Mar.	40,703	34,437	6,266	1,400	156	157	149	143
Apr.	41,861	35,304	6,557	1,282	161	161	156	155
May	42,954	36,979	5,975	1,143	165	169	143	142
June	41,705	35,395	6,310	1,414	160	162	150	144
July	42,263	36,026	6,237	1,230	162	165	149	147

Continued

Selected data relating to activity in the cotton textile industry, by areas.
August 1939-January 1943 - Continued

Year and month	Cotton consumption per day 4/				Index of cotton consumption, seasonally adjusted (1935-39 = 100)			
	United States		Non-cotton-growing States		United States		Non-cotton-growing States	
	growing States		All other States		growing States		All other States	
	Running bales	Running bales	Running bales	Running bales	5/	States 4/	Total	New England; States
1941-42								
Aug.	41,525	35,291	6,234	4,799	159	161	149	141
Sept.	40,836	34,747	6,089	4,707	157	159	145	139
Oct.	42,007	35,516	6,491	5,248	161	162	155	154
Nov.	43,546	37,287	6,259	5,027	167	170	149	148
Dec.	40,381	34,309	6,072	4,923	155	157	145	145
Jan.	44,072	37,477	6,595	5,348	169	171	157	157
Feb.	45,370	38,508	6,862	5,493	174	176	164	162
Mar.	43,973	37,431	6,542	5,175	169	171	156	172
Apr.	46,142	39,225	6,917	5,485	177	179	165	180
May	45,613	39,230	6,383	5,134	175	179	152	157
June	43,978	37,840	6,138	4,945	169	173	146	150
July	43,241	37,186	6,055	4,909	166	170	144	144
1942-43 3/								
Aug.	44,052	38,240	5,812	4,621	169	175	139	136
Sept.	44,937	38,907	6,030	4,799	172	178	144	141
Oct.	44,712	38,531	6,181	4,951	172	176	147	146
Nov.	44,538	38,640	5,898	4,654	171	177	141	137
Dec.	42,523	36,809	5,714	4,546	163	168	136	134
Jan.	44,658	38,813	5,845	4,681	171	177	139	138

Continued -

Selected data relating to activity in the cotton textile industry, United States,
August 1939-January 1943 - Continued

Year and month	Monthly turn-over rates per 100 factory workers in the cotton manufacturing industry 6/					Accession rates			Net changes: (accessions: minus separations):	Estimated number of wage earners in cotton manufactures 7/
	Quit	Discharge	Lay- off	Miscellaneous: (including military)	Total separation	Rehire	New hire	Total accession		
1939-40										Thousands
Aug.	1.53	.26	1.37		3.16		1.64	4.49	1.33	400
Sept.	1.70	.25	1.01		2.96		1.03	6.56	3.60	410
Oct.	1.56	.22	1.08		2.86		.90	5.66	2.80	434
Nov.	1.65	.23	1.57		3.45		1.31	3.76	.31	446
Dec.	1.23	.16	1.70		3.09		2.02	2.75	.34	445
Jan.	1.14	.20	2.02	.21	3.57		1.64	3.66	.09	440
Feb.	1.09	.20	2.61	.20	4.10		1.03	2.98	1.12	438
Mar.	1.20	.21	3.27	.18	4.86		.90	2.53	2.33	422
Apr.	1.36	.17	3.66	.09	5.28		1.31	3.02	2.26	416
May	1.48	.23	4.11	.12	5.94		1.64	3.46	2.48	407
June	1.30	.16	2.70	.12	4.28		2.20	4.09	.19	398
July	1.40	.17	2.29	.13	3.99		2.06	4.32	.33	403
1940-41										
Aug.	1.79	.25	1.80	.11	3.95		2.48	5.50	1.55	406
Sept.	1.95	.23	1.18	.46	3.82		2.46	6.28	2.46	420
Oct.	2.16	.24	.86	.31	3.57		2.25	6.96	3.39	436
Nov.	2.02	.25	1.04	.34	3.65		1.65	5.86	2.21	450
Dec.	1.68	.19	1.04	.21	3.12		1.10	4.08	.96	461
Jan.	2.35	.26	1.12	.34	4.07		1.31	6.05	1.98	462
Feb.	2.53	.29	.95	.40	4.17		1.10	5.28	1.11	471
Mar.	2.73	.23	.67	.34	3.97		1.21	5.66	1.69	476
Apr.	3.37	.29	.62	.30	4.58		1.19	6.17	1.59	481
May	3.91	.31	.77	.36	5.35		1.13	6.82	1.47	489
June	3.70	.36	.75	.30	5.11		1.38	6.71	1.60	499
July	3.96	.36	.72	.31	5.35		1.09	6.19	.84	502

Continued -

Selected data relating to activity in the cotton textile industry, United States,
August 1939-January 1943 - Continued

Year and month	Monthly turn-over rates per 100 factory workers in the cotton manufacturing industry 6/										Estimated number of wage earners in cotton manufactures 7/
	Separation rates			Accession rates				Net changes :(accessions : minus : separations):			
	Quit	Discharge	Lay- off	Miscellaneous: :(including : military)	Total separation	Rehire	New hire	Total accession			
1941-42										Thousands	
Aug.	4.15	.37	.78	.21	5.51	1.11	4.94	6.05	.54	505	
Sept.	4.08	.35	.65	.25	5.33	1.30	4.73	6.03	.70	507	
Oct.	3.46	.33	.81	.29	4.89	1.19	4.25	5.44	.55	513	
Nov.	2.43	.28	.96	.22	3.89	.95	3.01	3.96	.07	514	
Dec.	2.47	.31	1.11	.41	4.30	.82	3.02	3.84	-.46	515	
Jan.	3.37	.33	1.06	.63	5.39	1.31	5.18	6.49	1.10	516	
Feb.	3.60	.35	.62	.58	5.15	1.25	4.99	6.24	1.09	519	
Mar.	4.38	.36	.75	.59	6.08	1.14	5.96	7.10	1.02	521	
Apr.	5.78	.38	.75	.58	7.49	1.25	6.74	7.99	.50	525	
May	5.92	.42	.84	.59	7.77	1.53	6.63	8.16	.39	526	
June	6.10	.44	.71	.69	7.94	1.58	7.26	8.84	.90	527	
July	6.12	.53	.63	.93	8.21	1.46	6.67	8.13	-.08	527	
1942-43 3/											
Aug.	5.82	.42	.68	1.00	7.92	1.71	6.16	7.87	-.05	525	
Sept.	6.50	.51	.52	1.26	8.79	1.52	6.88	8.40	-.39	523	
Oct.	6.58	.38	.45	1.63	9.04	1.70	6.88	8.58	-.46	524	
Nov.	5.49	.38	.51	1.18	7.56	1.46	6.20	7.66	.10	524	
Dec.	4.96	.37	.47	1.16	6.96	1.20	5.22	6.42	-.54	528	
Jan.	5.77	.47	.36	.97	7.57	8/	8/	7.81	.24	520	

1/ Bureau of the Census.

2/ Compiled from basic data published by the Bureau of the Census.

3/ Preliminary.

4/ Compiled from basic data of the Bureau of the Census and the Federal Reserve Board.

5/ Federal Reserve Board.

6/ Bureau of Labor Statistics.

7/ This is a total of two series published by Bureau of Labor Statistics: "Cotton Manufactures, except Small Wares," and "Cotton Small Wares."

8/ Not available.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Item	Unit or base period	1942			1943	Pct. of year ago 1/
		Jan.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	
Prices:						
Middling 15/16-inch, 10 markets ..	Cent	18.99	19.27	19.67	20.44	108
Farm, United States	Cent	16.93	19.22	19.55	19.74	117
Parity	Cent	18.10	19.22	19.34	19.59	108
Farm, percentage of parity	Percent	94	100	101	101	107
Premium of 1-1/8-inch over basis 2/						
Memphis	Point	308	500	490	450	146
Carolina "B" mill area	Point	500	700	570	662	132
New England mill area	Point	525	725	688	682	131
American-Egyptian, farm, Arizona :	Cent	33.8	44.7	43.5	44.3	131
SxP, New England mill points 3/ ..	Cent	41.67	49.56	47.85	47.20	113
Cloth, 17 constructions	Cent	39.36	40.62	40.62	40.62	103
Mill margin (17 constructions) ..	Cent	20.26	21.47	21.03	20.32	100
Cottonseed, farm price	Dollar	43.24	45.01	44.72	44.34	103
Cottonseed, parity	Dollar	32.92	34.95	35.13	35.63	108
Cottonseed, farm, pct. of parity :	Percent	131	129	127	124	95
Consumption:						
All kinds during month, total	1,000 bales	947.5	913.0	935.5	915.5	97
All kinds cumulative, total	1,000 bales	5,391	3,777	4,712	5,628	104
All kinds per day, total	Bale	44,072	44,538	42,523	44,658	101
All kinds, annual rate	Million bales	11.4	11.4	10.8	11.4	100
American-Egyptian cotton, total ..	Bale	4,534	4,452	4,602	3,927	87
American-Egyptian, cumulative	Bale	19,480	17,619	22,221	26,148	134
Foreign cotton, total	Bale	16,569	14,938	14,063	14,058	85
Foreign cotton, cumulative	Bale	95,480	63,422	77,485	91,543	96
Spindle activity:						
Spindles in place	Thousand	24,119	23,844	23,846	23,759	99
Active spindles	Thousand	23,087	22,948	22,887	22,890	99
Percentage active	Percent	95.7	96.2	95.0	96.3	101
Hours operated, total	Million	11,367	10,558	10,734	10,820	95
Hours per spindle in operation ..	Hour	492	460	469	473	96
Hours per day 4/	Hour	15.9	15.3	15.1	15.3	96
Stocks, end of month:						
Consuming establishments	1,000 bales	2,498	2,441	2,567	2,507	100
Public storage and compresses	1,000 bales	12,857	13,637	13,576	13,069	102
Total 5/	1,000 bales	15,355	16,078	16,143	15,576	101
Egyptian cotton, total 5/	Bale	50,158	74,866	55,220	46,455	93
American-Egyptian cotton,						
total 5/	Bale	35,562	34,584	40,990	46,612	131
Index numbers:						
Cotton consumption	1935-39 = 100:	169	171	163	171	101
Spindle activity 6/	Percent	137.0	133.4	127.9	138.8	101
Prices paid, interest, and taxes :	1910-14 = 100:	146	155	156	158	108
Industrial production	1935-39 = 100:	171	194	196	198	116
Wholesale prices	1910-14 = 100:	140	146	147	149	106

Compiled from official sources. 1/ Applies to last month for which data are available. 2/ Premiums for Middling 1-1/8 inch based on near active month futures at New York. 3/ SxP, No. 2, 1-1/2 inch, New England mill points. 4/ Total hours per spindle in operation divided by number of days in calendar month. 5/ Includes only stocks in mills and public storage and at compresses. 6/ Based on 5-day 80-hour per week operation.

100 100 100
100 100 100

100 100 100
100 100 100
100 100 100
100 100 100

After five days return to
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Penalty for private use to
avoid payment of postage \$300

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

RICHARD ROBERTS
LIVESTOCK BRANCH
AGR'L MKTG ADMIN
U S DEPR OF AGRICULTURE
FNS-X-MESS WASHINGTON D C

